



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/532,535	03/22/2000	Tatsunori Kanai	0039-7646-2RD	7763

22850 7590 06/17/2004

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
1940 DUKE STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER
----------

KENNEDY, LESA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2151

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/532,535

Applicant(s)

KANAI ET AL.

Examiner

Lesa Kennedy

Art Unit

2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/5/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Remarks***

1. This action is responsive to the Response to Office Action filed on April 5, 2004. Claims 1-21 are pending examination. Claims 1-21 represent a method and system directed towards metadata generation and registration based on the MIME format or data name extension of the registering data.

***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments (see page 11 of the Response to Office Action filed on April 5, 2004) with respect to claim 17 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection of claim 17 has been withdrawn.

3. Applicant's arguments, see pages 12-13, filed April 5, 2004, with respect to 1, 13, 16-17 and 20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 13, 16-17 and 20 has been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are

Art Unit: 2151

such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 13, 16-17 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noah ("The Integration of the World Wide Web and Intranet Data Resources", 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Hawaii Intl. Conf. System Sciences, vol. 4, Jan. 6-9, 1998, pp. 496-502) in view of Amstein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,793,966).

As to claim 1, Noah teaches a meta-data registration method comprising the steps of:

detecting at least one of a format and a data name extension of the registration data [Sec. 3, par. 2; Noah discloses determining the source, type or content (format) of content objects (registration data)] to be registered into a server that registers and manages data and meta-data for data [pg. 498, col. 1, lines 1-3, par. 1; Noah discloses storing (registering) content objects (data) and metadata in databases via an object server];

selecting one procedure corresponding to the format or the extension detected by the detecting step, from a plurality of procedures each provided in correspondence to at least one of a format and an extension and stored in advance, each procedure having a program code for generating the meta-data for data according to a corresponding format or extension [Sec. 3, par. 3; Noah discloses that a sequence of programs (a procedure) is selected to generate metadata based on the source, type or content (format) of the content objects];

generating the meta-data for the registering data by executing the program code of said one procedure selected by the selecting step [Sec. 3, par. 3; Noah discloses using the selected sequence of programs (procedure) to generate metadata for the content objects (registering data)]; and

registering the meta-data generated by the generating step in relation to the registering data into the server [pg. 498, lines 1-3, par. 1; Noah discloses storing metadata in databases via an object server].

Noah does not expressly teach the limitation of the format being a MIME format, or of the server being a Web server.

However, Amstein teaches an authoring system for storing and modifying information such as documents and their associated meta-data on a server (see col. 9, lines 38-42; col. 10, lines 47-49, 54-56). Amstein teaches of using MIME header lines to indicate the format of documents registering in a Web server [col. 5, line 52- col. 6, line 3; Amstein discloses that HTTP requests to PUT (register) a document on a Web server include a MIME header].

Noah and Amstein are analogous art because they relate to metadata registration.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Noah in view of Amstein so as to register the content objects in a Web server using HTTP requests. One would be motivated to do so because the use of a protocol other than HTTP would require other network services to be added (such as terminal emulation programs), which could create security loopholes and added complexity.

Claims 13 and 16 are device claims that correspond to the distinguishing features of method claim 1. They do not teach or define any new limitations above claim 1, and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

Claims 17 and 20 are computer usable medium claims that correspond to the distinguishing features of method claim 1. They do not teach or define any new limitations above claim 1, and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

As to claim 21, the combination of Noah in view of Amstein teaches a meta-data registration method comprising the steps of:

detecting at least one of a MIME format [Amstein; col. 5, lines 60-61] and a data name extension of registering data [Sec. 3, par. 2; Noah discloses determining the source, type or content (format) of content objects (registration data)] to be registered into a Web server [col. 5, lines 52-55; col. 5, line 66- col. 6, line 3; Amstein discloses using the PUT method to register data into a Web server] that registers and manages data and meta-data for data [pg. 498, col. 1, lines 1-3, par. 1; Noah discloses storing (registering) content objects (data) and metadata in databases via an object server] on a name space having tree-like hierarchical structure [Figs. 5A (hierarchical structure of data) and 5B (hierarchical structure of metadata)];

selecting one procedure corresponding to the MIME format or the extension detected by the detecting step, from a plurality of procedures each provided in correspondence to at least one of a MIME format and an extension and stored in advance, each procedure having a program code for generating the meta-data for data according to a corresponding MIME format or extensions [Sec. 3, par. 3; Noah discloses that a sequence of programs (a procedure) is selected to generate metadata based on the source, type or content (format) of the content objects; col. 5, lines 60-61; Amstein discloses using MIME header to determine the data format];

generating the meta-data for the registering data by executing the program code of said one procedure selected by the selecting step [Sec. 3, par. 3; Noah discloses using the selected sequence of programs (procedure) to generate metadata for the content objects (registering data)]; and

registering the meta-data generated by the generating step in relation to the registering data into the server [pg. 498, lines 1-3, par. 1; Noah discloses storing metadata in databases via an object server].

***Conclusion***

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lesa Kennedy whose telephone number is (703) 305-8865. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

*Andrew Caldwell*  
Andrew Caldwell